

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

IO-10 SAM-01 AID-05 PC-01 /074 W

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P R 060922Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3234

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 7837

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT KS

SUBJECT: KIM YONG SAM KICKS OFF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY INTERPELLATION
SESSION

REF: SEOUL 7440 (230915Z SEP 75)

SUMMARY: NDP OPPOSITION LEADER KIM YONG SAM QUESTIONED ROKG FOR
FIFTY MINUTES IN INTERPELLATION SESSION THUS FAR MARKED BY
QUIET AND RESTRAINT BY BOTH RULING AND OPPOSITION PARTIES.
PRIMIN GAVE ESSENTIALLY PRO FORMA RESPONSES. END SUMMARY.

1. KICKING OFF OCTOBER 6 INTERPELLATION SESSION AT NEW NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY BUILDING, KIM YONG SAM NOTED IN OPENING HE WAS DEPRESSED
BY BUILDING'S SIZE, THAT HE FELT IT PRESSING DOWN ON ASSEMBLY
AND POPULATION IN GENERAL. HE CALLED FOR ROKG TO INITIATE SERIES
OF ACTIONS TO ALLEVIATE PRESSURES ON SOCIETY, INCLUDING REPEAL
OF EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. NINE. KIM'S QUESTIONS INTRODUCED NO
NEW CHALLENGES TO GOVERNMENT. HE NOTED THAT FORCED PUBLIC SILENCE
ON POLITICAL MATTERS DID NOT NECESSARILY INDICATE PUBLIC SUPPORT.

2. DURING HIS FIFTY MINUTE QUESTIONING PERIOD, KIM ALSO CALLED
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FOR FOLLOWING:

A. RELEASE OF PRISONERS ARRESTED UNDER EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. NINE;

B. ABOLISHMENT OF PRESS CENSORSHIP;

C. CESSATION OF ROKG ACTIONS AGAINST MEMBERS OF NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY (NCRD);

D. MEETING OF SIX NATIONS TO DISCUSS SECURITY OF KOREAN PENINSULA;

E. REDUCTION OF PROPOSED 1976 TAX BURDEN. (ACCORDING TO KIM, ROKG WANTS TO INCREASE OVERALL TAX REVENUES BY OVER 60 PERCENT).

F. ORGANIZATION, COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND STRIKE PRIVILEGE FOR LABOR UNIONS.

G. INCREASED SCHOLARSHIPS (TO INCLUDE AT LEAST 30 PERCENT OF CURRENT UNIVERSITY STUDENT POPULATION);

H. REPEAL OF NEW COLLEGE TENURE SYSTEM IN WHICH ROKG CONTROL OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS TURN THEM INTO "COURT SCHOLARS"; AND

I. REDUCTION OF PROPOSED DEFENSE TAX.

3. ONLY NOTICEABLE VARIANT ON PAST NDP LINE WAS KIM'S CALL FOR PRELIMINARY FOREIGN MINISTER'S MEETING AS PRELUDE TO SIX NATION CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE. KIM SAID THAT WHEN HE HAD PROPOSED SIX NATION MEETING IN PAST, ROKG HAD CALLED IDEA UNREALISTIC. WHEN U.S. SECRETARY KISSINGER PROPOSED SAME IDEA, ROKG APPROVED. KIM SAID THIS SMACKED OF "FLUNKEYISM."

4. IN PRIME MINISTER'S REPLY, KIM CHONG PIL STATED FIRMLY EMERGENCY MEASURES WERE STILL NECESSARY IN FACE OF NORTH KOREAN INTRANSIGENCE. COLLEGE PROFESSORIAL TENURE SYSTEM DID NOT CREATE "COURT SCHOLARS", BUT ONLY IMPROVED QUALITIES OF PROFESSORS THROUGH COMPETITION. PRIMIN AVERRED PUBLIC SILENCE WAS NOT FORCED. PUBLIC APPROVED ROKG POLICIES BUT WERE NOT PARTICULARLY VOCAL ABOUT IT AND NOTED THAT EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. CONFIDENTIAL

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NINE WAS NOT AFFECTING COMMON PEOPLE ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. AS FOR KISSINGER PROPOSAL FOR KOREA MEETING, PRIMIN SAID THAT SECRETARY HAD NOT CALLED FOR SIX NATION MEETING BUT MERELY WISHED TO INVITE THOSE INVOLVED IN MAINTAINING CEASE FIRE. PRIMIN SAID SIX NATION MEETING WOULDN'T WORK NOW.

5. INTERPELLATION SESSION CONTINUED THROUGHOUT AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 6 IN UNEVENTFUL FASHION.

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